THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI):

(a) and (b) School education is looked after primarily by the State Governments concerned. Syllabi an text books are also laid down by the State Governments/ State Agencies. At the national level the Ministry and the NCERT provide the guidance and oversee the implementation of the National Education Policy. At the national level there is no proposal to introduce new subjects for the school children. A new course 'Contemporary India' is being designed by the NCERT which will contain elements from different subjects areas designed in a way to promote ideas such as India's common cultural heritage, egalitarianism, democracy and secularism, equality of the sexes, protection of the environment, removal of social barriers, observance of the small family norm and inculcation of the scientific temper.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) while introducing this course, it will be ensured that the depth and coverage of information is kept at appropriate level so that it does not increase the total information load on the child in different subject areas.

Payment to railway pensioners by post offices

1709. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

a) whether it is a fact that person is paid to the railway man by the post offices;

(b) if so, what is the total number of such pensioners in the country; statewise;

(c) what is the total amount of pensions paid in one year;

(d) whether there is any amount outstanding against the railways on this account; and

(e) what are the corresponding figures during the years 1985-86 and the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Total number of Railway pensioners who are paid through Post Offices was 1,07,151 as on 01-04-1986. Statewise break-up of this number is however not maintained.

(c) The total amount of pension paid to Railway pensioners in 1985-86 was Rs. 43,61,64,578.69.

(d) The amount outstanding against the Railways as on 30-9-86 for which the claim is yet to be preferred was Rs. 6,25,65,619.17.

(e) Amount of pensions paid:

1985-86: Rs. 43,61,64,578.69

1986-87: Rs. 21,49,33,441.66

(up to 30-9-86)

Amount outstanding as on 30-9-86

1985-86: Rs. 1,46,31,675.20

1986-87: Rs. 1,97,56,752.67

(up to 30-9-86)

The remaining amount of outstanding of Rs. 2,81,77,191.30 pertains to the pension paid in previous years.